



Week of Nov. 21, 2007 – Nov. 27, 2007

Personal Web Sites and Blogging

Airmen have a responsibility to the Air Force, each other and the American public

As our Air Force becomes more and more reliant on new technology to conduct day-to-day missions, it's only natural that this reliance carries over into the personal lives of our Airmen. With the push of a button, Airmen are able to send messages, pictures and other information to family and friends across the globe, and more recently, social networking Web sites and Web logs (or blogs) have become a popular means of staying in touch.

When associating your military affiliation on a public Web site, remember that you represent the Air Force as ambassador for the United States and Air Force. In carrying out this awesome responsibility, the lives of others and the security of our nation rest on your shoulders.

As Airmen, we swore to defend the Constitution of the United States and abide by military regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. You are not prohibited from using blogs or social network sites, but you must consider the following before posting information to the public Web:

Classified information - this includes information that is not available to the public and would not be released under the Freedom of Information Act. Releasing classified information to the public—intentionally or otherwise—could result in UCMJ action, or worse, the compromise of national security.

Operational Security (OPSEC) - while certain pieces of information may not be classified, when put together, there can be detrimental results. Writing about current or future operations, locations of personnel or equipment, or arrival and departure information are all sensitive details that, if pieced together, could endanger the Air Force mission and the lives of our friends and Allies.

Illegal acts or incidents under investigation - a blog can be considered as evidence of guilt or personal knowledge of a crime. Illegal acts discussed in blogs could be used as evidence for UCMJ action.

Use of government computer systems – personal blogging on a government computer system is strictly prohibited. Government servers are reserved for the conduct of official business, and violations are punishable under the UCMJ. Moreover, personal blogging on a government computer places the government's ability to protect national security at risk.

Find Airman's Roll Call Online Here: <http://www.af.mil/library/viewpoints/>

Airman's Roll Call is designed for supervisors at all levels to help keep Airmen informed on current issues, clear up confusion, dispel rumors, and provide additional face-to-face communication between supervisors and their teams.